

Fact

Every part of your body ages differently.

el don

They Said It

"Death does not carry a passport."

Anwar Sadat

Volume 63 Number 10 Rancho Santiago College 17th at Bristol Santa Ana, Calif. 92706

KYOU suspends programming

Suspension of public access cable prompts telecommunications dept. to switch stations

by Clara Sanchez
el don

KYOU, Santa Ana's public access television station will be temporarily off the air until \$135,000 is received by the college district, according to David Ream, Santa Ana city manager.

In a meeting held last week, the RSC board of trustees unanimously approved the recommendation to suspend public access television operations, until funds are received by the district or another mutually satisfactory resolution is reached by the city of Santa Ana and the college district.

The suspension is the result of a contract dispute between the city and Comcast Cablevision.

According to Terry Bales, KYOU adviser, six of the station's part-time employees were laid off following the suspension due to lack of funds and the studio's hours were cut from 79 hours to 44 hours.

Bales stated that there is no estimation as to when KYOU will resume operations. "It could be a week, a month, or even the end of the fiscal year."

Ream, said that the city intends to make



VISITING ARTISTS- Carolyn Berlie is one of many performers taking part in the RSC fine arts department's visiting artists program. Performing on Friday are singers Linda May and Mark Garcia. For more information call 667-3177.

Photo by Greg Clifford

Comcast comply with the contract and will then forward the funds necessary to run KYOU.

"We think it's a great program," said Ream, "and we fully support it."

Although the suspension will have no

long-term effect on the telecommunication credit courses, stated Bales, it is not welcome.

"One of the biggest disadvantages is that the students would have been able to handle the producing part of the commu-

nity shows, and will not be able to now. It's disappointing," said Bales.

The student program "Around and About Orange County" which was one of the programs broadcast by the school will

RSC wins first round in legal battle with city

Superior court rules in favor of school over zoning codes, swap meets to continue

by Dan Tratensek
el don

RSC won the first round in their fight with the city of Santa Ana to continue weekly campus based swap meets.

The city of Santa Ana, which filed suit against RSC and the Santiago Club, on Jan. 21 in order to halt the swap meet was denied their bid by superior court judge Gary L. Taylor.

Santa Ana City Attorney Edward J. Cooper said the college was violating city zoning codes by holding the swap meet in an open space zone.

"In reviewing the agreement between

RSC and the Santiago Club it appears that the activity may be in violation of the open space designation, which does not permit this type of use," said Cooper.

According to RSC's attorney, Mary Dowell, the college is exempt from the zoning codes because it is related to and regulated by a government agency.

Taylor said he was unable to issue an injunction against the college because he was not sure RSC was in direct violation of the zoning codes.

The next step in deciding the issue is to go to trial, according to Santa Ana mayor Dan Young. Young said he thinks the city

council will vote in favor of taking this action.

"The real tragedy of this whole case is that a major swap meet has been set up that affects a residential neighborhood without any communication between the college and the community," said Young.

According to Mike Silvas, president of the RSC board of trustees, the swap meet is a main source of revenue for the Santiago Club.

"The mercado (swap meet) provides needed revenue to support educational projects and programs throughout the district," said Silvas in an open letter.

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Blood drive under way; staff, students urged to give

by Dan Tratensek
el don

"The Associated Student Body wants your blood," said Valerie Pryer, ASB adviser.

The ASB in association with the American Red Cross is holding its annual blood drive now through March 11.

Pryer, who organized the drive, said this event was coordinated and designed by the ASB and has received a "tremendous response" in the past.

"We encourage the staff to donate along with the students and anyone from any of the other campus locations," said Pryer.

Not as many students have signed up for the drive as in the past. According to



HOSPITAL ON WHEELS- The RED Cross will be aiding the student body in blood drive scheduled for March 11.

Lynette Martinolich, a secretary in student services, they expect more people to sign up as the actual donation date of March 11 approaches.

"We are expecting a lot of staff participation along with a lot of return donors," Martinolich said. "In the past they have made the drive very successful."

Pryer said the process of drawing the blood takes only minutes and is for a worthwhile cause.

The drive is a free service offered to any organization by the Red Cross which also

"We encourage the staff to donate along with students and anyone from any of the other campus locations"

Valerie Pryer

aids in the organization of the event and does the actual blood collection.

Donations will be taken on March 11 from 9 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Sign up sheets are available in the student activities office.

Sheriff's deputies end training with a bang

Dolores Seroy
el don

After weeks of training, 25 people graduated from the Orange County Sheriff's Training Academy, and are now pursuing a career in law enforcement.

Spouses, parents and grandparents filled Phillips Hall Feb. 23, to honor the graduating peace officers.

Academy recruits attended 720 hours of instruction and earn 19 units from RSC, which is affiliated with the academy. Leadership, discipline, stress and physical training are subjects covered in the course.

"It's similar to military boot camp except they go home at night," said Lt. Daniel Martini, academy commander.

All county law enforcement officers and Marine Corps military police are trained by the sheriff's academy. Some of the classes are held at the Garden Grove campus.

"We are recognized, as one of the top training centers in California," said Martini.

The presentation of badges, the awarding of diplomas and the oath of office were conducted by Brad Gates, sheriff/coroner.

Carter Doran, vice chancellor, gave the keynote address.

Armed assault on campus, "out of jurisdiction"

Mindy Malone
el don

RSC student Robert Dillman, was robbed at gun point, on Wednesday Feb. 10.

According to Dillman at about 7:35 p.m. he was leaving his truck when he was approached by a man carrying a weapon who stepped from behind his truck and pointed the gun at Dillman. Describing the attacker as a black man in his early 20s standing about 5 feet 9 inches tall and 160 pounds, Dillman said he had freckles across his nose and a long white scarf around his head.

Dillman said the gunman asked him "do you go to this college?" and then ordered him to "turn around and walk to school."

After walking about 30 feet the assailant pulled away in Dillman's truck.

Dillman notified the campus police, where he was told that the police dispatcher did not want to get involved in an "off campus incident."

"Any time a student at RSC is involved with an off campus police incident all we can do is direct him to the nearest police department," said Robert Partridge, head of campus security.

When Dillman asked the dispatcher to radio the Santa Ana Police, the dispatcher dialed 911 and handed him the phone.

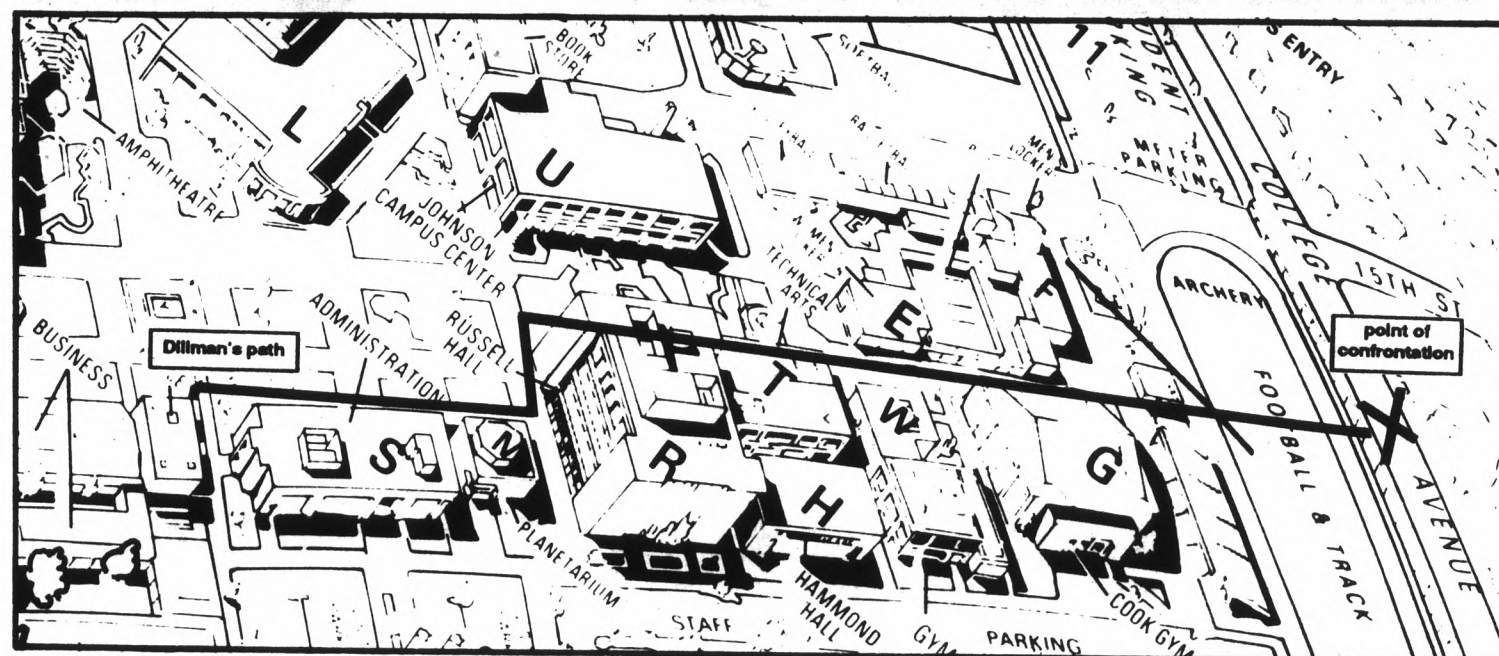
What Dillman heard was a recording telling him to call another number. The dispatcher dialed three times, getting a busy signal each time.

The Santa Ana Police arrived at about 8:15 p.m., over thirty minutes after the robbery. Dillman related his story to the police officer, wrote his own police report

then proceeded to his class.

The next day, according to Dillman, the truck was reported abandoned and he went to the police impound lot to reclaim it. The stereo had been removed, as well as about forty tapes and several tools. Dillman estimated his losses at between \$900 and \$1,000.

Retracing Dillman's route



Costa Mesa freeway an "E ticket" attraction

by Kelly McGinnis
el don

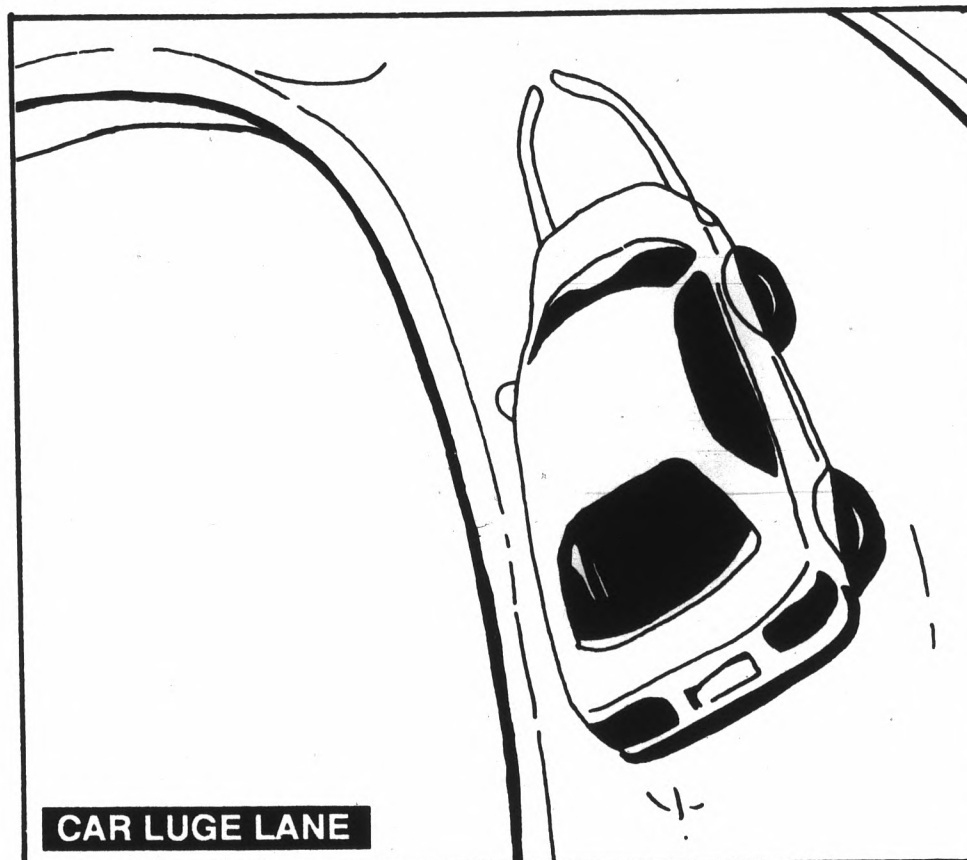
As the popular song goes "Nobody rides for free." That's why the term freeway is ludicrous. The state is spending my tax dollars, and I intend to get my money's worth.

I've been encountering a growing number of people who refuse to venture out onto the freeways. Our stock in freeways is a forced purchase, and my point is, why buy something you're not going to use? So I suggest looking into some of the positive aspects of freeways.

Some of the local highways and byways can actually be entertaining, if you know what to look for. Take the 55 between Seventeenth and MacArthur, for example. It's a Caltrans playground out there. All of the wimps steer clear of the high paced carpool lane, leaving it wide open for the automotive adventurer. What, no passenger? Don't sweat it, just cruise on over to the far right. Because of the temporary convex wall that has been installed alongside the lane, many who avoid the carpool lane also stay away from what has erroneously been dubbed the slow lane. Sledding down this 'luge lane' with barricades rounded to fit the contour of my car makes me want to head to the next Olympics and go for the gold.

I'll admit the far right lane is wider than the icy runs used by Olympians, but it feels like it should only accommodate vehicles within the size range of Disneyland's Autopia cars.

Although the 55 is no magic kingdom, with a little creativity it can be just as fun.



Students lose teacher-administration battles

by Lowell Bennink
el don

For the last year the faculty and administration have been trying to pound out an agreement to take the place of the faculty's long expired contract, but neither seems to be making any progress.

Teachers want what most people would agree to be a reasonable increase in pay and cost of living adjustments. Administrators, however, seem to be taking the stand that teachers are about as valuable as a cook at McDonalds.

The administration claims teachers have been earning plenty for what they do and only deserve a token increase. These same administrators turn around, and accept a healthy pay increase.

Teachers are not above reproach. At faculty meetings they regress to childish activity and call the big, bad, mean administrators filthy names.

Teachers complaining about how abused and misused they are pout and throw tantrums. They need to realize that if they want cooperation, throwing around four-lettered adjectives describing administrators is not the way to go about it.

While letting their tempers cool a bit, both parties should step back from the negotiating tables and realize just who is truly getting hurt in this fight.

Despite what the egotistical administration thinks, students are what makes this school tick. Without students, RSC's doors would be closed. Who would the administrators have to reign over like two-bit dictators if you and I didn't shell out our money? Nobody.

Teachers shouldn't be so smug either. Students pay their salary and attend classes. Teachers would go south right along with administrators if it weren't for students.

Whether sitting in class or trying to get help in the administration building, students have to be wondering if these people's hearts are in the right place. Are they interested in helping and teaching students which is their job requirement? Or are they too busy thinking up new names to call each other?

It's time to settle the contract and get back to the true business of this college: education.

Suppose they gave a debate and nobody came

Two weeks ago students were given the opportunity to view and question U.S. presidential candidates from both major parties, live, via satellite in Phillips Hall. About five people attended the debates.

The United States is in serious trouble if this turnout is any indication of the number of students who will vote this year. When American citizens reach the age of 18 they are given the right to vote along with the right to stand up for what they believe.

After they've voted, they applaud or criticize the laws, policies or decisions of politicians in public office. Oddly enough, the people who don't vote always seem to yell the loudest. There should be a lot of yelling on this campus next year.

RSC has a total student population of over 30,000. Less than one thousandth of a percent of them attended the debates.

Why did so few attend? Was it because they've already chosen a candidate or maybe it's because they already know how each candidate stands on all issues.

If students simply don't care, the ASB shouldn't continue wasting time and money.

el don

el don

el don is the official student newspaper of RSC, produced by the newspaper production classes: journalism 123 A B C D. Editorials and opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinion of RSC or el don unless stated. Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters, however, must be under 200 words and must contain the authors name and phone number. All letters must be delivered to the el don room (C-201).

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Beginning a new season

New coach gives softball 'Edge' over rest of conference

by Matt Payne
el don

RSC's womens softball will be looking for the winning "Edge" going into the 1988 season.

Butch Edge, an assistant under Jim Reach for two years will take over the head coaching responsibilities. Reach retired at the end of last year after six seasons and two state championships.

"This year we are going to have a different approach to the game," said Edge. "I'm stressing the mental aspects of the game."

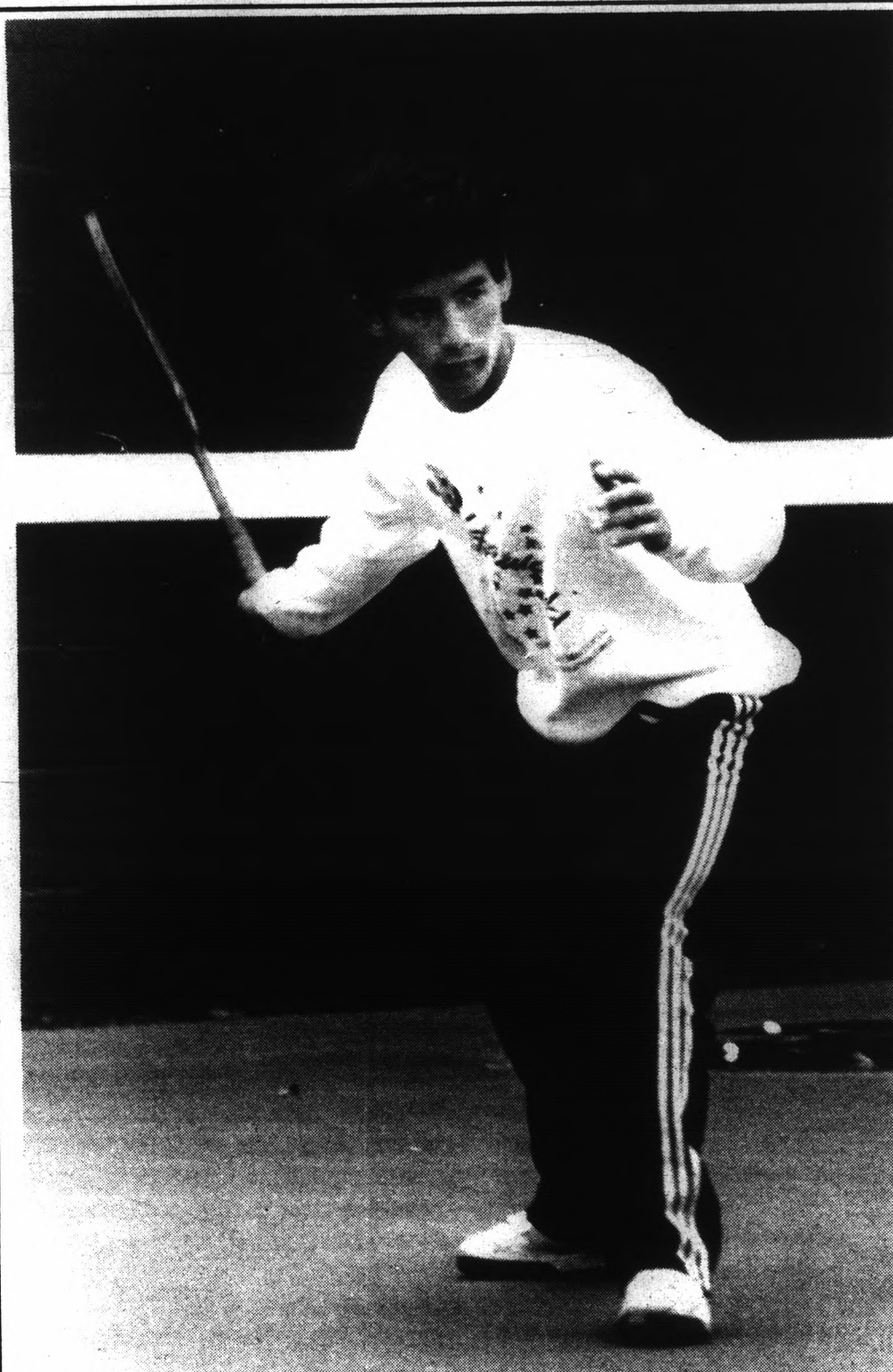
"We have a very young team with only five returning players," said Edge. "Lisa Pedersen will be the captain and Nancy Morelock will anchor us behind the plate. Debbie Kerr, Dawn Robertson and Tami Rogers are also returning."

The Dons won the state championship in 1985 and 1986. They finished tied for first place with Saddleback in the Orange Empire Conference last year with a league record of 16-4.

"Saddleback will again be the toughest competition this year with their pitching staff," said Edge, "but we have a lot of talented freshman to make it work."

Freshmen that have shown early promise according to Edge are: Karen Beebe from Loara High, Heather Illsley from Westminster High and Judy Padilla from Saddleback High.

Edge coached El Toro High School to three straight South Coast League Championships in 1978, 1979 and 1980 with an overall record of 44-10.



WARMING UP- Thien Dao practices his backhand. The Dons open conference play March 8 vs. Saddleback.

photo by Greg Clifford

Mens tennis coach looks to give Orange Coast, Saddleback 'run for their money'

by Mindy Malone
el don

Entering into this years conference play, coach Craig Hayes has confidence that his mens tennis team will be looking at another prosperous year.

RSC's mens tennis team, which placed third in conference last year, plans on taking third again in 1988. The dominant teams every year are Orange Coast College and Saddleback, leaving the rest of the pack battling for third place.

"Our team looks better and stronger than last year," said second year coach Hayes. "We hope to give Saddleback and Orange Coast a run for their money."

"I'm in the process of building the program here on the Santa Ana campus," Hayes said. "I know there are a lot of good players that are from this area, the problem is encouraging them to come play for our team for a couple of years."

The tennis team has already played four practice games, splitting their wins and losses.

Thien Dao was RSC's no. 2 player on the team last year and will return with six new recruits.

Dao will take over the no. 1 spot and new recruit Omar Sary will be no. 2. Dao and Sary are also the Dons top doubles team.

"We hope that more men decide to come out for the team in the future," Hayes said. "I believe that the new Orange Campus will help us in that respect, as well as recruiting more knowledgeable players."



DIRECTING TRAFFIC- Butch Edge head coach of the womens softball team, gives instructions to his players.

photo by Greg Clifford

What can we do to prevent crime and violence?

Mr. Robert L. Gates, C.S. of Marblehead, Mass., a former newspaper writer and a member of The Christian Science Board of Lectureship will speak on the subject:

A HEALING RESPONSE TO LAWLESSNESS

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B- sports hot

Basketball, baseball find keys to unlock Pandora's Box of offensive firepower

by Lowell Bennink
el don

Just a few thoughts on sports around RSC.

When you're hot: RSC (24-7) was supposed to play a men's basketball game on Saturday night, thus opening up the 1988 playoffs. But, instead San Bernardino Valley College (16-15), impersonating a playoff-caliber team, showed up to provide a nice diversion for the Dons.

On the way to a 94-63 drubbing of the Indians in the first round, RSC ran off the first 11 points of the game and a 30-6 lead. Orange Empire Conference MVP Alonzo "Score At Will" Jamison led all scorers with 25 points, most of which came on dunks in the first half. Hey, Alonzo, be careful on those dunks. Those backboards have to last.

When thinking about what would have happened if Jamison would have played the whole game, do the words "scoring record" come to mind? And just think of what the final score would have been if coach Dana Pagett would have had more than three starters in at a time throughout the game.

The OOPS! Award: Tony Smalley, all alone on a fast break, attempted to imitate a Jamison dunk in the first half Saturday night. Has the ball he launched into orbit off

the front of the rim been found yet?

Being offensive: A funny thing happened to RSC's baseball team on the way the number one ranking in the state. They found an offense. The type of offense that dismantled San Bernardino Valley 20-1 to win the Riverside Tournament.

Coach Don Sneddon's guys, who are currently undefeated, have been averaging over 10 runs a game. Cerritos kept the Dons under 10 runs for one of the few times this season in the championship game of the Casey Stengel tournament. Lot of good it did them. The Dons won the tournament anyway.

Bob Hamelin, Mike Gonzales, Tim Reynolds, Wade Clester and Todd Lloyd are all hitting above the .400 mark.

Somebody better notify Gene Mauch about this. With that type of an offense, the Angels could win with Urbano Lugo on the mound.

DUM PL&S: Vanity license plates I'd like to see Randy Youngman of the Register put on his car.

Fore!: RSC's golf team (and, yes, you should feel bad if you didn't know we had a golf team) finished in ninth place at a recent tournament in San Diego.

Maybe they were sleeping: The people who seeded the teams for the mens basketball playoffs apparently don't care for teams that play in Orange County.

The way the four of the six teams were seeded, only one of them could possibly make it to the final eight at Santa Clara University. No. 2 Cypress, No. 7 RSC, No. 15 Orange Coast and No. 23 Golden West were all set in one bracket, setting up possible confrontations as early as the second round.

Saddleback, ranked No. 17, were not in the same bracket with the rest of the county teams. No, the seeding committee tossed them in with El Camino (No. 1), Hancock (No. 8) and Cerritos (No. 9). Fullerton (No. 12) will have to face Imperial Valley (No. 5) and Santa Monica (No. 4) if they have any hopes of reaching the state finals.

Gee, you don't think they're hoping to get rid of all the Orange County teams, do you?

SPORTS SCHEDULE

All events are at RSC's Santa Ana campus unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, March 3

Softball vs. Riverside City, 3 p.m.
Baseball @ Mira Costa, 2 p.m.

Friday, March 4

Softball @ Bakersfield Tournament (Fri.-Sun.) TBA
Mens & Womens swimming vs. Bakersfield City, 2 p.m.
Golf vs. Cerritos/Palomar/San Diego CC, at El Prado, noon

Saturday, March 5

Mens & Womens track @ Long Beach Relays, all day
Baseball @ Golden West, noon
Mens & Womens swimming @ Palomar Relays, all day

Monday, March 7

Golf, Conference Tournament @ Riverside Jurupa Hills, noon

Tuesday, March 8

Womens tennis vs. Saddleback, 2 p.m.
Mens tennis @ Saddleback, 2 p.m.
Baseball vs. Cal Poly Pomona, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9

Softball @ Saddleback, 3 p.m.
Golf, Conference Tournament, El Prado, noon

Thursday, March 10

Womens tennis @ Citrus, 2 p.m.
Mens tennis vs. Citrus, 2 p.m.
Baseball @ Cerritos, 2 p.m.

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Feeling the impact of politics Social, cultural barriers affect voting

by Mary McCormack
el don

Representatives from five walks of student life were asked what impact politics has on their lives and how important they consider their vote.

"Students have more important things to do than vote, but are more aware of what's going on politically than the average 18-year-old who's working and not going to college," said Noeleen Fleming, an international student from Ireland.

According to Fleming, college students don't have enough time to concern themselves with the conduct of any person filling a political role in their country.

Fleming said the political situation in Ireland has caused a higher level of awareness among young voters.

Emily Huerta, an 18-year-old student at RSC, is a third generation Mexican but considers herself an American.

Huerta's grandparents were born in Mexico and came to live in the United States at an early age.

"Poverty in Mexico was a big factor in influencing my grandparents' political stand and, perhaps, ignorance to a certain extent," Huerta said.

Only one person in her family votes and the others, including Huerta, ask "what's the point?" This apathy is reminiscent of her grandparents' lifestyle in Mexico, Huerta said.

Speaking for the College Republican Club, President Robert Barnes said that "The

majority of people in the club are politically aware because they feel that the views of the club represent those views that are most similar to their own."

According to Barnes it's difficult to determine how politically active students are because it's a commuter college. RSC doesn't have a permanent student population that lives on campus so they aren't around long enough to voice their opinions.

Don Brown, a member of Sigma Alpha Mu at Cal State Fullerton, said his fraternity is heavily involved in politics. "Did you know that writing to your congressman can be more influential than your vote?" asked Brown. He admitted that Sigma Alpha Mu brothers frequently write on issues that they feel strongly about.

Behind the Iron Curtain the story is a little different.

Zsuzsanna Toth, a 20-year-old refugee from Hungary, said that everybody in the University of Budapest is interested in politics. The general public is encouraged to have their own opinion and they are allowed to vote.

"Although we do have a choice when voting for somebody, there is only one political party and we can only pick one out of the one or perhaps two candidates," said Toth.

Toth also said that in Hungary there is a general apathy among voters but most of them still vote because they don't want to be singled out and accused of not being loyal to their country.

Despite the lack of political freedom in communist countries, there are a lot of jokes circulating among the people about their plight. One in particular loosely translates into English as,

Question: Why does Brezhnev--former General Secretary of the Soviet Union--have so many loudspeakers in front of him when he talks? Answer: Because they blow the air so that he can stand!

Coping with corporate "Down sizing"

"Young people would be well advised to develop skills outside their chosen career... pursue a professional career where you can control your own destiny".....Vincent, age 60.

Dolores Seroy
el don

"My daughter tells people I'm retired; I guess she's embarrassed to say I'm unemployed," said John, a member of the Senior Job Support Network that meets weekly at RSC.

If present trends continue, today's Yuppie will be forced into early retirement just as John was at age 55. Statistics show 600,000 people in the US have taken "voluntary" early retirement in the last six years.

Corporations call this "down sizing," and the first to be targeted are men over 50, who are in their peak earning years.

By the year 2020 the entire generation of baby-boomers will be over 55, eligible for senior discounts and they may be unemployed.

"Young people would be well advised to develop skills outside their chosen career," said Vincent, 60, a group member. "Don't rely on one career. Pursue a professional career where you can control your own destiny."

Four years ago Vincent was a vice-presi-

dent at a financial institution when he was forced to take early retirement. At age 56 he receives a fraction of the amount of money he would have received at 65.

With his children grown and working, Vincent planned to work another 10 years and put the extra money away for his retirement.

"I was part of the system and I knew I was on the hit list," said Vincent. The company called it "restructuring," and 100 lower level employees were fired.

"You're just a number when they come in and clean out," said Vincent.

"I'm more fortunate than some; I was able to keep my benefits. Being without health insurance is a major fear."

"They (the corporations) want to get rid of them (those over 50), so they can hire somebody younger, at a lower level," said Juliet Brundey, author of Forced Out.

"The emotional side of all this is devastating," said Vincent. "We know that from the group."

Even though there are no statistics to back him, Vincent feels that the suicide rate is high among the "forced out."

"I personally knew of 26 suicides at the

corporate out-placement service I went to," he said.

Maintaining self-confidence during the time a person is unemployed is difficult and families are not always the best support. Meeting regularly with others can offer support and valuable contacts.

Vincent does have the support of his family.

"They are behind me 1,000 percent," he said. This family is bitter. They watched Vincent work hard to reach the top and feel he was treated unfairly.

Sharing resources, building self-esteem and recognizing the grief of job loss are some of the benefits from group participation.

"If a person's image is tied to the job, the grief process is tougher," said Gloria Davenport, the groups' founder.

Walt has been unemployed for one week and his emotions still run high.

"I went through a state of shock," Walt said. "I got mad and went to an attorney. I'm over that now, I think."

"My first two meetings with the group were a great morale booster. To find others to talk to, to find out I wasn't alone or some kind of a freak."

"I haven't had to look for a job in 30 years."

Resumes, cover letters and interviews are topics covered at the meetings.

"Many middle-management people don't know anything about job hunting," Davenport said. "We treat job hunting like a real job."

Knowing how to market yourself is important, but rebuilding self-esteem is the first step, according to Davenport.

"I've seen many of these men go from rock bottom to recapturing their sense of worth and personal power," said Davenport.

"We are not a job placement organization; we are a self-help network for seniors who were in middle-management," Davenport said.

Members come from all areas of the county and, except for one woman, it has been an all male group. According to Davenport, fewer women have reached the management level, thus their absence in the group.

Engineers, marketing managers and a college administrator are among the 15 members at the Thursday meeting. Desperation, pain and the fear that come with job loss, can be seen on the faces of the men.

As the meeting progresses, they give words of encouragement to each other. Resources and job leads are shared and the feeling of confidence and hope takes over.

They are strong men who will not give up. They may be out, but they are not down.

The Senior Job Search Support Network meets weekly and is open to both men and women 55 and older who are seeking employment. There are no membership fees. Those interested in joining may contact Davenport at (714) 667-3058.

An 'Unbearable' kind of movie

by Vince Lara
el don

I don't often travel out to Fashion Island in Newport Beach to view a movie, but when the opportunity arose to see the "Unbearable Lightness of Being" I couldn't resist.

I walked up to the booth to buy a ticket but blanked out on the name of the movie. I could only think of asking for a ticket to see the "unbearable" movie. The man inside looked at me as if to say they are all "unbearable," just take your pick.

I discovered that my description, though not intended, was all too true. None of the people I went with knew that this miniseries disguised as a film was going to last almost three hours. Granted, film makers

have managed to create a film longer than the "Unbearable Film," but even the epic plight of "Gandhi" was more stable a story line than this film would ever dream of presenting.

The concept behind the film was reasonable but the screen play, much like a dinner at Bob's Big Boy, was unsettling enough to have me twitching in my seat. And it didn't bother me that my twitching would distract the people around me. It made the movie's experience more fun.

Set in Czechoslovakia just prior to the invasion by the Soviet Union, the story is about a playboy doctor and his sexual excursions. Finally, he meets a woman, marries her and settles down just in time for the invasion.

Simple plot? Yes, almost too simple. I

paid \$5.50 for a film that would make a snail lethargic.

The title of the film is pretentious and the production carried the film into the trite and artsy-fartsy mode. When Russia invades, the film alternates between high grain black and white photography to pale color, the likes of which I haven't seen since my family pulled out the old movies of my third birthday party.

I would have had a headache after the film if it had stayed that way. At least "The Wizard of Oz" had a pleasant transition from black and white to color. I think it might make the movie a little better if they threw in a few munchkins.

Art films have a place, probably in a dark alley, but I see no reason for someone to make a meaningless, long-winded film and

push it off on the public as entertainment.

A common trait among art films is that they always seem to insult people's intelligence. No matter how creative they can be, artsy-craftsy films seem to show women so oblivious to their mates flings that it's unrealistic.

Most of the scenery looks as if a bunch of artists sat around at a coffee shop talking, mind you it's always just talk, about their artsy dream environment. Then they transfer it to celuloid in a way they can understand it. Leaving the general public wondering just what was going on.

Next time artsy film makers have an urge to create a please keep in mind your film will captivate an audience that has the personality of a carrot.

When new Irish bands are playing

by Toby Sharp
el don

Both albums are Irish, yet each different.

The Pogues' *If I Should Fall From Grace With God* and Sinead O'Connor's *The Lion And The Cobra* make for enjoyable and interesting listening.

The Pogues blend traditional folk music instruments and rhythms with modern lyrics and rock. The sound is sort of like The Clash meets The Clancy Brothers. The disc contains 15 songs with the majority of them having upbeat melodies. The lyrics may not always be cheery, but they are potent with meaning.

"Thousands Are Sailing" talks about the Irish leaving Ireland, going "across the Western Ocean where the hand of opportunity draws tickets in a lottery."

"Streets of Sorrow/Birmingham Six" tells of the injustice that occurs in England and Ireland for "being Irish in the wrong place at the wrong time." Other topics covered on the album are songs about horse racing, political views and pride of Ireland.

The name of the band is Gaelic, meaning kiss. I was informed that they used to be called Poguemahone, which

Pogues, Sinead O'Connor lead new waves of music out of Ireland into uncharted areas in post U2 era

translates to "kiss my a--," a rowdy statement at the least.

The Pogues should be heard at an Irish pub while downing a few cold ones because their music has enough energy to make one thirsty. But pub or not, they are a band worth listening to.

Sinead O'Connor is a singer with an excellent voice. I first heard her sing on the soundtrack from "Captive," written by the Edge of U2, which convinced me to buy "The Lion And The Cobra."

Though Sinead's voice wails at times, she can have a sound quality akin to fog, sort of ethereal and floating. There were no songs on the disc that I disliked, yet certain tracks came across better than others.

"Mandinka" combines good rhythm, a forward, driving guitar and a good use of Sinead's voice and range. "Never Get Old" has Sinead singing/wailing, Enya saying words in the foreground, and an excellent string line that together works very well.

The album had many impressionistic moments where the music wasn't quite in focus, much like U2's "Unforgettable Fire," yet the overall effect brought a nice change of pace from all the top 40 music that today's radio is soaked in.

I think we will be seeing many more good Irish rock bands coming out as well as many more excellent discs from the ones in existence. For a look at the old and new of Irish rock, check out "Live for Ireland," an album to help unemployment in Ireland. This was made at a one-day concert about a year ago and contains such groups as U2, The Pogues, Clannad, Chris de Burgh, The Boomtown Rats and other equally good bands. The album contains great music and gives the public a chance to hear it.

Audibles

Misprints: On the latest single by Bruce Springsteen from his *Tunnel of Love* album, "One Step Up," the B-side is an unreleased song about a nuclear mishap called "Roulette." The labels of some B-sides, however, were stamped as Rosanne Cash's "Why Don't You Quit Leaving Me Alone." But have no fear, when needle is put to vinyl the song you hear will be Springsteen's.

Heading Out Again: The Talking Heads are alive and well and recording in Paris. The latest Head album, entitled *Naked*, will be featuring various West African musicians. Release date is unknown. Talking Heads member Jerry Harrison also has a semi-solo effort coming out. Harrison, who is recording with members of the group who accompanied the Heads on the "Stop Making Sense Tour" in a configuration known as Casual Gods, is planning on a tour this summer.

Phil on Film: Genesis drummer Phil Collins has recently completed a movie entitled "Buster." The film is about English train robber Ronald Buster Edwards (played by

Collins) and is set in 1963. Co-starring with Collins is Julie ("Educating Rita") Walters. Collins previous acting experience includes playing the Artful Dodger as a teen and a bit part in the Beatles movie "A Hard Day's Night."

Beatle-discs: Look for a compilation of Beatles singles, previously unavailable on any album, to be released on compact disc. They should be in the record stores any time.

Bruce on Tour: Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band began their "Tunnel of Love Express Tour" in New England last week. Springsteen, despite rumors to the contrary, has the entire E Street Band in tow and is playing his usual marathon shows in arena-size venues. Though no dates or locations have yet been set, Bruce is expected to roll through Southern California in late March or early April. Tickets for most of his concerts have been going on sale about one week before the performances to cut down on scalping.

Mega-Clapton: Eric "Slowhand" Clapton will be releasing a multiple album set (at last report going at six albums or cassettes, four CDs) spanning his long career through the Yardbirds, Cream, Derek and the Dominos and his solo efforts. Look for it in stores in early April carrying a hefty price.

--Compiled by Lowell Bennink

Rock group no 'common' Hoi Polloi

Local band working hard at making it to the top of the charts

by Joan Medina
el don

What does it take for a rock band to make it on today's music scene? It's excitement, fame and fortune. MTV and American Bandstand have made it look easy, as the world of rock 'n' roll has propelled ordinary "kids" into superstars seemingly overnight.

To the average public it seems all a rock musician needs to know is a few chords on the guitar, have a semi-melodic voice and have a certain appeal. In reality, earning a living in rock music is one of the most grueling of career choices, both emotionally as well as physically.

Success in rock music is uncertain. There is no such thing as the overnight sensation. Most bands have played for years in dingy, hole-in-the-wall clubs before ever hitting the charts. The charts show no mercy, creating has-beens out of never-beens within months or even weeks. For every musician that makes it are dozens of others that get pushed farther down.

However, perseverance and hard work do pay off. A band may never become "the New Beatles" or attain the financial status of Paul McCartney, but attracting a loyal,

supportive following can be reward enough for most serious musicians.

What is life like in a serious rock band on the verge of signing a contract with a major record label? Here is Hoi Polloi, an exciting, up-and-coming local band interviewed before their performance at the Meadowlark Country Club in Huntington Beach last month.

The name Hoi Polloi is Greek for common people. The band Hoi Polloi has been around for about three years, but only 23-year-old guitarist/songwriter Steve Timmerman is one of the original members.

According to Timmerman, Hoi Polloi was formed by members of another local band, London Fog.

"Deciding on a name, someone opened a dictionary (of names), closed his eyes and let his finger fall," Timmerman said. "It came to rest on Hoi Polloi. Unfortunately, Hoi Polloi has no real meaning to the current members."

The current Hoi Polloi has been together for about a year, give or take a month. Its five members besides Timmerman are Vince Lui, 24, lead vocals; Don Solo, 30, lead guitar; Pete Hutchins, 28, bass guitar and Tim Nepel, 27, drums/percussion.

Forming the band could well be considered fate. Lui and Solo work at Abbey Road, a record distributor in Santa Ana. Lui and Timmerman went to school together. Solo, when recording the band London Fog, met Timmerman. Hutchins, who came to the US from England, met

while buying bass guitar strings in a music store. Nepel was the drummer in the popular but now defunct local band the Jitters.

"I was forced to audition by a friend who was in the band," said Lui. "The friend is no longer in the band, but I'm still here."

According to Hutchins, Hoi Polloi "is serious about success." They practice about three times a week and every night the week of a show.

"There are a lot of bands around and a lot of bands don't work very hard," said Hutchins. "That can make the difference between a good-sounding band and an average-sounding band, especially the vocals. You have to work at it."

At this point, Hoi Polloi is "shopping" or contacting record labels for a recording contract. Because they don't work with an agent, they must do a lot of the doorknocking themselves. Currently, there are about six major labels interested in Hoi Polloi, including Enigma.

Hoi Polloi is trying for a new sound. Typically, their music has an island flavor, but they adamantly decline to categorize their style.

"Most rock bands have a blues base," Timmerman explained "Hoi Polloi is based on reggae."

"But we are not a reggae band," interjected Nepel. Hence, the titles to the tunes on their demo tape emphasize Hoi Polloi's broad range, from "I Could've Been Lost" to "Congo Basin."

Timmerman does the majority of the writing, but he refuses to take full credit, claiming "everyone contributes." Everyone comes up with ideas for lyrics and Timmerman puts together the melodies.

Contrary to a lot of common thought, most rock musicians are not juvenile delinquents, dropouts or lobotomy specimens. Hoi Polloi is proof that intelligence and real talent are common in rock music.

Lui is a supervisor at Abbey Road. Hutchins, an electronics engineer, works at

Pacific Scientific designing missiles. Timmerman is a quality assurance engineer at McDonnell-Douglas. Nepel works for West Coast Drum Center "selling drums in the day, playing them at night."

The individual musical background of each member is as diversified as the members themselves. Both Lui and Timmerman, who are the main songwriting talent of Hoi Polloi, each have had a limited amount of formal music training.

"We play what we feel," says Timmerman.

Nepel, who has been playing the drums for over 20 years, has had the greatest amount of formal music education of any member in the band. Solo, who has been playing music for 11 years, has studied music and currently teaches guitar.

Hutchins was involved with bands in England, including North Star, which produced one album and a single.

What happens when Hoi Polloi makes it in the music business? Does it get easier?

"That's when the hard work starts," says Hoi Polloi.

"We want to break the pop scene open and change it," Lui said. "(The music currently on the charts) is basically the same."

To Hoi Polloi, a hit single means more people will come listen to them. A bigger crowd is not their ultimate goal, but rather an audience who appreciates their style.

Hoi Polloi has six performances in March, including a stint at the Palomino in North Hollywood on next Wednesday. Sponsored by radio station KROQ, Hoi Polloi will be getting air play over Southern California.

"Music should be fun," Hutchins said. "It's getting too serious these days."

Timmerman, with tongue planted firmly in cheek, already knows what will happen when the band has a hit: "We'll all quit and do solo albums!"

This is Hoi Polloi.



THE ORIGINAL HOI POLLOI - guitarist/songwriter Steve Timmerman jamming with the "common people" at the Meadow Lark Country Club. photo by Vince Lara

They were strangers from different worlds... but a friendship forged out of danger and desperation linked them together forever.

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